printing a filament onto a first surface of the fabric to form the sample area, wherein the filament comprises an inert polymeric composition;

cooling the inert polymeric composition to form an inert polymeric coating in the fabric such that the sample area is completely surrounded by the inert polymeric coating.

2. The method of claim **1**, wherein the filament is printed at an extrusion temperature, and wherein the inert polymeric coating comprises a polymer having a glass transition temperature that is less than the extrusion temperature.

3. The method of claim **2**, wherein the extrusion temperature is about 100° C. to about 200° C.

4. The method of claim **2**, wherein the extrusion temperature is about 125° C. to about 150° C.

5. The method of claim **2**, wherein the glass transition temperature of the polymer is about 50° C. and about 100° C.

6. The method of claim **2**, wherein the polymer has a melting temperature that is greater than the extrusion temperature.

7. The method of claim **1**, wherein the polymer comprises a polylactic acid.

8. The method of claim **1**, wherein the fabric defines a first surface and a second opposite surface, and wherein the filament is printed onto both the first surface and the second surface.

9. The method of claim **1**, wherein the inert polymeric composition saturates the fabric around the sample area.

10. The method of claim **1**, wherein the fabric comprises a woven fabric.

11. The method of claim **10**, wherein the fabric comprises cotton fibers, nylon fibers, polyester fibers, silk fibers, or mixtures thereof.

12. The method of claim **1**, wherein cooling the inert polymeric composition is achieved a cooling temperature that is less than about 100° C.

13. The method of claim **1**, further comprising:

applying a blood sample to the sample area, wherein the blood sample saturates the fabric in the sample area but is prevented from migrating out of the sample area by the inert polymeric coating.

14. The method of claim **1**, further comprising:

preheating the fabric to a temperature within 20% of the extrusion temperature.

15. The method of claim **1**, further comprising:

heating the fabric during printing to a temperature within 20% of the extrusion temperature.

16. The method of claim **1**, further comprising:

following printing, heating the fabric to a temperature sufficient to cause the polymer to soften and flow throughout the thickness of the fabric.

17. The method of claim **1**, wherein the polymer has a melting temperature that is less than the extrusion temperature.

18. The method of claim **17**, wherein the polymer comprises a homopolymer of 2-oxepanone.

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